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The quotations show that the price of

hogs is now the highest in seven years.

With the prices of most other farm products high, the farmers will have the means to purchase what they really need during the next year.

If the President could put an end to the

useless controversy that has sprung up between the friends of Admiral Schley and

Admiral Sampson by calling off the proposed court of inquiry he would render the country a valuable service.

It looks now as if selecting the Constitution

to do the work that the Columbia did in the international yacht race is like

selecting the second horse in a race to win in a contest with another. But, after all, it is

not a matter of first-class importance.

Candidate Maguire should not forget to

commend most heartily, in his letter of acceptance, the increase of the city's

expenses to a figure that is 21 per cent. increase of taxation in four years and \$700,000

increase of the bonded debt are not sufficient to meet.

Sam Jones told a Kentucky audience the

other night that all Republicans are racists

and all Democrats are fools. He also told

his audience that, while he often was paid

\$50 an hour, many people receive but 10

cents. The party that is made up of fools

must be in a large majority where he lectures at \$20 an hour.

The United States has no use whatever

for the Danish West Indies, but, as Denmark

is determined to dispose of them, it

may be a good stroke of policy on our part

to take them. No doubt Germany would be

only too glad to obtain for a naval

station, and such a step on her part would

raise the Monroe doctrine in a very embarrassing

shape.

Those members of the Indiana Bible

conference who declared that there is a literal

hell and an abundance of work for such

an institution have made themselves

subjects of quite general and not always

serious newspaper comment. If the excellent

men who emphasized the doctrine of eternal

punishment hold to it, it is of the utmost

importance that they should make it

the central idea of every sermon.

The Boston Herald finds in the attendance

at the Democratic primaries in this

city evidence of the deplorable lack of interest

which people take in municipal affairs.

The Democratic vote at the primaries

was nearly half as large as the party vote

for President last November, and it was

probably double the number of Democrats

who would have attended the primaries if

held under the old system. The primary

election may not be popular with those

who desire to manipulate nominations, but

the new system commends itself to the mass

of men who belong to parties.

There is no reason for requiring Prince

Chun to make due reverence to Emperor

William while his Chinese attendants are

prone on the floor. If a representative of

the German government were killed by a mob

in this country, the expression of regret

by the President, with a promise to bring

the assassins to justice, would be all that

would be required. Why should more be

required of China? The Chinese custom

of service is in the hands of foreigners, and

tariffs are arranged by foreigners, other

rights have been put upon rulers and people,

and it is not surprising that the Chinese

hate foreigners.

The downpour of water that submerged

the larger part of Cleveland, late Saturday

night, was an unusual happening. That

water should fall over the best built portion

of a city with ample drainage in such volume

as to flood its streets and undermine

residence seems incredible, yet such was

the case. What befel the best part of

Cleveland explains the washout on the

Wabash in June, near Loganport. The

culvert had carried off the water for years,

but one night a cloud like a suspended lake

burst in the vicinity of the culvert, and so

sudden was the fall of water that it could

not pass through the outlet and consequently

flooded the valley and undermined the

track.

The statement made to a meeting of the

members of the Amalgamated Association in

Indianapolis by Vice President Hickey

respecting the proposition of Mr. Morgan, of

the United States Steel Corporation, is too

important to be lost sight of at this stage

of the controversy. In the conference between

President Shaffer and the officers of the

Steel Corporation Mr. Morgan offered

the office of the Amalgamated Association

to extend the scale of that organization

to four mills, thus putting them under the

control of the Amalgamated, and to extend

the union scale to all the mills of the

company if, in the meantime, the association

lived up to its agreement. It was simply

giving to President Shaffer and his as-

sociates, at the end of two years, all that

they asked. This proposition Mr. Shaffer

rejected, declaring that all the mills, in

some of which there are few union workers,

must be put under the scale or a strike

would follow. This statement comes from

a member of the Amalgamated, now a

striker, who was sent to Pittsburgh to

investigate all matters connected with the

strike. If true it takes from Mr. Shaffer

the last claim for consideration and makes

him an uncompromising man, totally unfit

to occupy the position which gives him

power over the conduct of thousands of

men.

## THE LESSON OF LABOR DAY.

The observance of Labor day was more

general yesterday than ever before. More

organizations were in line and the different

trades were more largely represented than

ever before in this city. What is true of

Indianapolis was probably true of every

town in the country which has industries.

This larger demonstration is due to the

fact that the conditions essential to the

well-being of wage-earners were never

more favorable. Indeed, there can be no

better index by which to measure the con-

dition of the country than labor organiza-

tions. The parade showed that the mem-

bers of most of the organizations are so

generally employed and fairly paid that

they could afford special uniforms for the

occasion. The people that lined the streets

through which the procession marched,

composed very largely of the families and

friends of the marching men, were so well

and tastefully dressed that it was the

subject of remark. Nothing like it could

be seen elsewhere in the world. The marks

of class which appear in other countries are

obliterated by the public school system.

The entire satisfaction of those who

marched and those who looked on as

friends told in their manner and conversa-

tion that the day was a success. Those who

depict the hardship of labor at the present

time are the victims of their own delusions.

Most of the speeches will show that the

orators did not attempt to destroy the

cheerfulness of the day by dismal chatter

about the poor growing poorer. Indeed,

oratory was least prominent in the exer-

cises, games of various kinds better suited

the day than speaking that might be

dreary. The day was also marked by

sobriety and decorum. In any other country

such a festival by laboring people would

be marred by brawls due to the use of in-

toxics. All America is learning that a

day of recreation is not a day of dissipa-

tion, and no element in American society

has a clearer idea of the difference than

the wage-earner who has American ideas.

Sobriety and self-respect are the special

characteristics of the American holiday.

Law and police regulations have not

wrought this marked change in fifty years;

it is due to our institutions, which teach

individual self-respect, not the least im-

portant of which is Labor day, on which

the American wage-earner feels bound to

be at his best.

## UNSUSTAINED CHARGES.

Two months ago an article appeared in

the Forum, written by Francis E. Leupp,

setting forth that the reason why the pen-

sion roll does not materially decrease so

long after the war, is fraud in the service.

Portions of this article have been copied

into hundreds of papers, thus giving the

public the impression that the pension roll

is "honey-combed with fraud." In his

article Mr. Leupp gives instances of frauds

which have been perpetrated and dis-

covered. For instance, one medical board

passed thirty-two cases of heart disease in

one week. There is a medical board in

every county in the Northern States, thousands of them, and only one is found

to be either dishonest or lax, but the dis-

honesty of this board was exposed by hav-

ing the cases sent to another board, which

discovered that the applicants did not suf-

fer from heart disease. Thus one medical

board corrected the fraud of another. In

this State, some time since, a medical

board rated an applicant at \$12 per month

for a "normal liver" and gave him a total

rating of \$30 a month. This last was a

case of gross ignorance on the part of a

board which had few cases, but it was

discovered by the examiners in Washington,

as were the thirty-two cases of heart dis-

ease, and thrown out and the medical board

dismissed. Moreover, it is the diagnosis of

examining boards, rather than the ratings,

that governs the examiners in Washing-

ton. It can be added that the medical

boards, as a rule, are made up of reputable

physicians in active practice.

Mr. Leupp and his friends call attention

to the instance of a Tennessee attorney

who filed 108 claims, of which only eight

had any merit, the others being fictitious

and based upon forged papers. Who made

the discovery that these claims were fraud-

ulent? The agents and special exam-

iners of the Pension Bureau, who are

constantly on the lookout for such

frauds, and generally discover and reject

them. Certainly, claims not allowed can

not swell the pension roll. The writer

might have added that a score of claim

agents have been sent to the penitentiary

for attempting such frauds. Still another

instance cited by Mr. Leupp is that of an

Indiana claim agent who submitted claims

for men who had never been in the service.

That he did so is evidence that the claim

agent and Mr. Leupp are ignorant of the

fact that an honorable discharge must be

presented by every applicant at the outset.

Such claims, not accompanied with dis-

charges, were rejected and consequently

could not have swelled the pension roll.

Soon after Mr. Cleveland became Presi-

dent, upon the assumption that the pension

rolls were "honey-combed with fraud,"

more than 100,000 pensioners of one class

were suspended, and several thousands of

other classes. In all of these cases the

pensioners were required to submit fresh

evidence that they were entitled to pen-

sions. The result was nearly all the sus-

pended pensioners were restored to the roll

before the close of Mr. Cleveland's term.

That there are men drawing pensions who

should not, and others having larger pen-

sions than they should, is not denied. It

is equally true that other men who deserve

pensions are unable to get them, and still

others who do not receive as much as they

should. But these facts and such evidence

as Mr. Leupp gives do not warrant the

assumption that the pension roll does not

shrink because the pensioners added by

fraud. By an act approved by Mr. Cleve-

land Jan. 20, 1887, all soldiers who were

enrolled sixty days in the Mexican

war were given pensions when sixty-two

years of age. That was less than thirty-

five years after the close of the war. It

is now almost thirty-six years since the

close of the war of the rebellion, but no